THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Surface-to-Air Trishul Missile was flight tested on 28th and 29th January, 2002.

(b) Trishul with quick reaction time has a range of 9 km. It is a multi-role missile for all the three Services. The last test flight was conducted to establish command guidance system in a sea skimmer mode and the test demonstrated that the missiles hit the floating and simulated targets accurately.

Increasing budget grants for the Coast Guard

654. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-items captioned Coast Guard at Sea with scanty resources appearing in Hindustan Times dated the 1st February, 2002;

(b) whether the Coast Guard Department has asked for increase in their budget grant in order to meet the increased responsibility for sea vigil over the next five years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to augment their grant?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government is aware of the Budgetary requirements posed by the Coast Guard and would make appropriate provisions during the Xth Plan keeping in view the role envisaged for the Coast Guard and the resources available.

Pak UAVs shot down by India

655. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) belonging to Pakistan shot down by India during the last three years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the Indian UAVs have also been shot down by Pakistan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;